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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

Masako ASAMURA et al.

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Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

March 17, 2004

Sir:

In conjunction with the filing of a Request for Continued Examination concurrently herewith, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This reply includes Amendments to the Claims; and Remarks.